

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and re-examination of the this application via the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

After entering this amendment, claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-27 and 30-35 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

The undersigned acknowledges the Examiner's indication of the allowance of claim 26. Further the undersigned acknowledges the Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 6, 10, 12, 14-21 and 28 if re-written into independent form, including all of the limitations of any base claims.

In view of the above, independent claim 1 is being amended to include the subject matter of claim 6. In view of the indicated allowability of claim 6, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom, namely claims 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 are similarly allowable.

Independent claim 8 is being amended to include the subject matter of claim 10, which was previously indicated as being allowable. Accordingly, claim 8 is allowable, along with all claims depending therefrom, namely claim 9, 11, 12, 13 and 22-25.

Claim 14 was previously indicated as being allowable if re-written and is currently amended so as to include all the limitation of its base claim. In view of this, it is submitted that claim 14 and all claims depending therefrom, namely claims 15-21 are allowable.

The subject matter of claim 28, previously indicated as being allowable if re-written, has been incorporated into independent claim 27. It is therefore submitted that claim 27 and all claims depending therefrom, namely claims 30-35, are likewise allowable.

Objections to the Drawings

In the office action it was indicated that the drawings, as originally filed, were objected to by the Examiner. Enclosed herewith for approval by the Examiner are replacement drawings for all of the figures, Figures 1-8, in the present application. The replacement drawings differ from the originally submitted drawings only in that the character of the lines and the quality of the drawings (over those originally submitted) has been improved. No other changes have been made to the drawings.

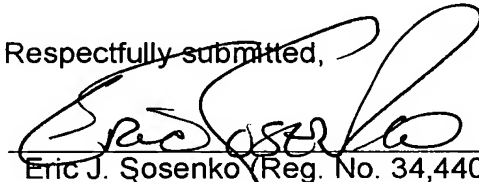
Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

October 8, 2003

Date

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Six (6) Replacement Sheet(s) of Drawings